

WEATHER FORECAST.
Fair and warmer to-day; probably
showers to-morrow; south winds.
Highest temperature yesterday, 74; lowest, 50.
Detailed weather reports on last page.

N. Y. TROOPS ON FLANDERS FRONT TO MEET ENEMY DRIVE; GERMANS RISKING ALL BEFORE MORE U. S. SOLDIERS ARRIVE; SENATORS NOW CONFIDENT OF FORCING FULL WAR INQUIRY

ASSERT WILSON MISCONSTRUES PROBE'S INTENT

Chamberlain's Friends Are
Resentful Over Hints of
"Covert Purposes."

TALK OF COMPROMISE

Message From President
Offers No Objection to
Aircraft Quest.

VOTE SET FOR MONDAY

Senate Committee. It Is Said,
Now Has All Power Given
in Pending Resolution.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—In the face of an authoritative statement from the President that he was not opposed to an investigation by the Senate Military Committee of the aircraft programme, there was no disposition evidenced to-night by the supporters of the Chamberlain resolution to recede from their position of insistence upon the adoption of a measure which would give the committee powers no less restricted than those which the resolution proposed.

The promised crisis between the President and the proponents of a thorough investigation of the whole problem of war preparedness and the alleged deficiency of the War Department went on today until Monday. Meantime a compromise may be effected, but for the present the advantage seemed to rest with Chairman Chamberlain, his followers on the Military Committee and the bulk of the Republican organization in the Senate.

Bears Out "The Sun" Statement

The compromise talk arose today following the receipt by Senator Thompson (Kan.) of a message from the President's train en route to New York. This message bore out statements made in THE SUN this morning, that the President did not object to an aircraft investigation by the Senate Committee, but did object to the investigation taking a wider scope than this, as the Chamberlain resolution proposed, on the ground that this would have a "covert purpose."

While there was no explanation vouchsafed of the President's meaning of the "covert purpose" of the Chamberlain measure, it is pretty well understood that the personality of Senator Chamberlain, and likewise of his coadjutor Hitchcock, have become so intolerable to the President that anything which bears the stamp of their activities can in any circumstances receive Executive sanction.

Say Purpose Is Misconstrued.

In the view of Senator Chamberlain and his confidential supporters in and out of the committee the President's announced opposition to the adoption of the Chamberlain resolution was founded upon a false premise. Senator Thompson, who has been the President's main reliance in the present crisis, discovered this today when he sought enlightenment from the Military Committee.

It was then explained to the Kansas Senator that the Administration was fully misconstruing the purpose of the Chamberlain resolution when it advanced the opinion that it was founded upon a desire to protract existing strife between the President and Congress.

He was told that the only difference between the Chamberlain resolution as framed and the one under which the Military Committee held its famous series of hearings during the winter months was that the newly framed measure afforded opportunity for the committee to make expenditures for necessary traveling expenses of witnesses and to engage special agents, such as bookkeepers, public accountants and the paid assistants to facilitate and carry the evidence adduced in examinations.

It also was explained to Senator Thompson that the Administration was fully misconstruing the purpose of the Chamberlain resolution when it advanced the opinion that it was founded upon a desire to protract existing strife between the President and Congress.

Facts About To-day's Big Red Cross Parade

TIME of start, 2 o'clock P. M.
Line of march, south on Fifth
avenue from Eighth street to
Fourteenth street.

Reviewing stand, at Worth
Monument, Twenty-fifth street
and Fifth avenue, where President
and Mrs. Wilson will be
stationed.

Number to be in line, 75,000.
Number of women, 20,000.
Number of Red Cross nurses,
2,000.

Chief feature, huge Red Cross
formed of marchers.
Number of bands, forty.
Community singers in line,
1,000.

Chairman, Joseph Johnson.
This is one of 1,500 parades
with 5,000,000 marchers taking
place to-day in the U. S. A.

CROWDS CHEER WILSON HERE

President Arrives to Review
Red Cross Parade and Ask
Aid for Fund.

GOES FOR A LONG DRIVE

Fifth Avenue Throngs Wave
Hats and Handkerchiefs
at the Executive.

President Wilson came to New York yesterday to help with his voice and presence in starting the American Red Cross drive for \$100,000,000. He and Mrs. Wilson were fervently saluted by a crowd at the Pennsylvania Station where they arrived at 3:18 P. M.; at the Waldorf, where they will stop until to-morrow night; on a long drive through Central Park and up Riverside Drive, and last night at the theatre.

It was not the President of the United States that the people saw, so he told a globe trotting audience at the Waldorf Theatre last night, but a "tired man having a good time." This brief comment came at the close of the second act of "Jack o' Lantern," with Fred Stone in the role of chief Presidential entertainer. The President entered the theatre at 8:25 o'clock with Mrs. Wilson, Col. and Mrs. E. M. House and Rear Admiral Grayson. They came from the Forty-sixth street side and were in their box before anybody knew that such distinguished company was to be present.

President Well Guarded.

Behind the box stood eight secret service men. Fifty policemen in plain clothes and thirty more in uniform, under the command of two inspectors, guarded every entrance and exit to the theatre. When the surprised audience saw the well known features of the Chief Executive every man and woman in the house arose and cheered. There was a machine gun like ripple of hand clapping and then some more applause and cheers.

The President Bowed Gravely.

The play proceeded until the first intermission. Then the audience, still watching the Presidential box, seemed in doubt as to what to do until Jesse Jones of the American Red Cross entered the box. The President arose to shake hands with his friend, and everybody else got up and started another demonstration.

But the real enthusiasm came when at the close of the second act, after Charles Aldrich had given his performance of "The Man With One Hundred Faces," then flashed the sign, "The World's Abraham Lincoln—Woodrow Wilson." Immediately the impersonator showed himself in the makeup of the tired man in the box and the hand played "The Star Spangled Banner."

President Forced to Speak.

The President stood in his box. The audience was on its feet. When the music faded the audience cheered and applauded until the President was forced to speak.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "you are laboring under a delusion. You think that you see the President of the United States. You really see only a tired man having a good time."

IRISH TREASON PLOT CHARGED; ARREST MANY

French Says Government
Knows of Connection
With Germans

ENLISTMENTS ARE ASKED

All Subjects Are Called Upon
to Assist in Crushing
Conspiracy.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN from the London Times.

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DUBLIN, May 17.—A considerable number of arrests have been made in Dublin and throughout Ireland.

The Government has decided to deal firmly with the pro-German conspiracy on the island. Gen. French, the Lord Lieutenant, has issued a proclamation, which will be posted at daybreak to-morrow, declaring that the Government is aware of treasonable communication between certain of the King's subjects in Ireland and the German enemy. He calls upon all the King's subjects to aid in crushing such a conspiracy, and as a means to this end, to facilitate voluntary enlistment without resort to compulsion (apparently this means for the present).

Edward Shortt, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, authorizes the statement that he shares the responsibility for Gen. French's measures, which are directed solely against the dangerous German intrigue, of which they have knowledge. The number of Irish men and women in active co-operation with the enemy is very small, but many others may become unknowingly involved. The Government call is for Irish support without regard to creed or politics to help in stamping out the German plot.

LONDON, May 17.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph says a proclamation was issued to-night, signed by Edward Shortt, Chief Secretary for Ireland, authorizing the Government to set to commercial use the names of Irishmen who have been in communication with Germany. "Rebelling on Ireland's fair name."

The proclamation calls upon all loyal subjects to aid in defeating the manoeuvre. It urges voluntary recruiting, so that compulsion may be avoided.

IRISH NATIONALISTS CHARGE DECEPTION

Declare Conscription Was Won
on False Promise.

DUBLIN, May 17.—At a meeting of forty-five members of the Irish party here yesterday, the Irish Nationalist leader, John Dillon, presiding, a statement was issued to the effect that the bill for conscription in Ireland was adopted by Parliament largely under the impression that no attempt would be made to use the power until a responsible Irish government and an Irish parliament were called into existence.

The latest developments, however, lead to the conviction, the statement says, that the Government has no intention of producing any bill whatever, and that all the promises made were uttered simply for the purpose of deceiving the House of Commons, the British public and above all the American Government. The American people and the allied European nations, and of prejudicing the cause of Ireland in their eyes.

The statement goes on to say that conscription would be not only an outrage of national right but a breach of faith. The complaint is made that British propaganda is creating prejudice against Ireland in America, and an appeal is made to the United States to listen to Ireland's case as stated by Irishmen qualified to speak in her behalf. The statement concludes:

"We beg of the American people and Government, in the memory of the bonds of sympathy which have existed between the American and Irish nations ever since the foundation of the republic, to urge upon their British allies the duty of immediately applying in the case of Ireland those principles of democratic freedom and national self-determination so magnificently set forth in President Wilson's declarations, the benefit of which is denied to Ireland, while the Irish people are called on to fight for them in foreign lands."

LONDON, May 17.—The House of Commons adjourned last night until May 23 without any sign of the long delayed Irish home rule bill. Apparently the members of the Government have no idea when the bill will be introduced.

CAPTAIN FIGHTS AS PRIVATE.

Quits California Camp and Is
Found Serving in France.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 17.—Capt. Richard P. King of the 145th (United States) Infantry, who has been missing from Camp Kearny since last December, has been apprehended in France, where he was serving as an enlisted man with the American expeditionary force. He is being brought back here.

German Flour Ration Cut to 5.6 Ounces a Day

AMSTERDAM, May 17.—The German Food Department has ordered a reduction of the flour rations from the 150 grams (5.6 ounces) daily per capita, commencing June 6, according to advices from Berlin. The announcement by the department breaks the news to the German people by saying:

While the supply of promised grain from Ukraine certainly can be reckoned upon, it is uncertain whether such supplies will reach Germany in large amounts before this year's harvest. The reduction is made in order to be quite certain of meeting the people's needs.

The addition of 10 per cent. of potato flour is to be permitted. This means that the normal bread ration of about two grams daily, with an extra allowance to women, will be continued. The ration will be restored after the harvest, if the arrival of supplies does not permit this sooner. To make up for the reduction of bread ration, the sugar ration will be doubled and the distribution of groats and corn flour will be increased.

"Only 1,852 tons of grain have arrived in Germany from the Ukraine," says the *Koelische Volkszeitung*, a copy of which has been received here. "This is less than one-fiftieth of what we ought to have had by now," the newspaper adds.

WAR BOARD TO CUT STEEL USE

Hinted at Conference That
Commercial Outlet Must
Be Curtailed.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—A long conference today between members of the War Industries Board and the American Iron and Steel Institute over the question of increased steel production and the curbing of steel use in commercial outlets without settlement and will be continued in New York to-morrow.

Despite attempts at secrecy it was learned that Chairman Baruch and other members of the War Industries Board are convinced there is a steel shortage, and that in the event of a refusal of steel manufacturers to curtail steel use to commercial uses the Government must operate the plants.

The joint committee which will sit in New York to-morrow is composed of James A. Farrell, E. G. Grace, H. G. Dalton, J. A. Topping and E. A. Clarke, representing the steel industry, and Alexander Legge, J. L. Replogle and chairman Baruch of the War Industries Board. Gen. Hugh L. Johnson will also sit for the War Industries Board.

To Determine Needs.

To-day's conference was in the nature of a preliminary proceeding. The joint committee appointed at its close was instructed by both parties to determine the exact needs of the Government and to survey the steel and iron resources.

The manufacturers held that there was no shortage in the steel supply and attempted to fix the blame for delay in filling war orders to the fuel and transportation conditions. This view two members of the War Industries Board, to be Mr. Replogle and Mr. Legge, refused to accept. Mr. Replogle is director of the steel supply. Mr. Legge is chairman of the requirements division.

While the Government threat to compel the curtailment of all steel production except those producing for war purposes was not announced at the conference, it was well understood by the steel men that such a threat was made. It was said, however, that there is hope of an agreement after the joint committee makes its report, and that commanding will be used only as a last resort.

Opinions Differ.

There were sharp differences of opinion as to what the steel needs of the Government will amount to and whether there is an actual shortage of pig iron. Mr. Replogle reiterated his contention that unless immediate steps are taken to protect the steel and pig iron resources in a few months America will be seriously hampered in its war preparations.

The steel men took issue with this and insisted if they were given exact facts as to all war needs means could be found to meet them. The needs of the Allies are also being considered. The required production figures were not given to the steel men and the conference wound up with a discussion of what industries could be curtailed. Strong opposition has already been expressed by the automobile manufacturers.

Chairman Baruch and it is known that the War Industries Board is taking full cognizance of the situation. Other big interests are preparing to fight Government control.

A careful study of the less essential industries will be made by the joint committee and the findings turned over to Chairman Baruch, who will make the final decision. The committee was instructed to start its investigation at once and to report as quickly as possible.

ARTILLERY FIRE GROWS VIOLENT AS DRIVE NEARS

Hindenburg Is Apparently
About Ready to Try Again
to Sever Allied Line.

FOCH'S MEN CONFIDENT

Arrival of American Forces
Gives the Balance of Power
to the Defenders.

LONDON, May 17.—Official reports

comment on the increased violence of the artillery fire at various points on the long battle front in Flanders and Picardy, but infantry activity was limited last night and today to skirmishing of light cavalry. There is a strong impression on the front, however, that the Germans are about ready to resume their "drive" in the effort to separate the armies of the Allies and reach the Channel ports.

In view of the unusually long time that the Germans have taken to prepare for the resumption of their offensive the correspondents at the front are convinced that when hostilities are resumed they will be on a large scale as the German advance of March 21, and probably larger. It is noted that the artillery fire today reached its greatest intensity at the points where the Germans had attained their maximum penetration of the Allied lines in the last salient before Ypres and in the Somme wedge before Amiens.

Counter Raids Near Albert.

Among the minor operations of the night was a raid by British troops near Beaumont-Hamel, five and a half miles due north of Albert, in which a few prisoners were taken. Berlin reports this action as the repulse of a strong British thrust, in which some English prisoners were taken. A German raid last night near Moyenneville, south of Arras, was repulsed. The British point an attack this morning on a German post north of Meris, southwest of Bailleul, and killed or drove out the garrison.

In the French sector to the south the bombardment was most violent at Houthoul, where the battle line approaches nearest to Amiens. South of that point, at Meulst-Ste. Georges at the tip of the salient, a German attack was delivered, but it failed. South of Canny-sur-Matz, which lies to the northeast of Lassigny, the French in a sharp drive penetrated the German lines at two places and brought back forty prisoners, including an officer. A German attack on the south bank of the Oise was broken up by the French fire.

Among the points mentioned by Field Marshal Haig as under exceptionally heavy artillery fire during the night are Paveset Wood, north of Hinges, between Loos and Hinges, and from the Forest of Nieppe to Meteren, all in the Fens salient.

Great Wastage of Enemy.

A high officer of the British General Staff, discussing the situation with the Associated Press correspondent, said: "The German command, finding that the momentum of the first rush has been expended, has tried smaller attacks, but finds that they do not pay. Our experiences in the past have been similar. It is clear that an initial success is the cheapest, and that the further one goes without pause the more costly attacks become. The ratio of loss to profit becomes prohibitive. So now the Germans are preparing for another really big move."

But the more time they take in preparation the more time we have for defensive plans.

In the meanwhile there is great strain and wastage to the German troops in the line from shell fire, gas and other causes. The longer the enemy waits the better become our defensive and the more perfect our counter plans.

Anxiety Will Be Relieved.

Regarding the war situation as a whole, we urged the importance of the Allies retaining the proper sense of proportion. We have got a long row to hoe, and for the whole summer the situation must continue to be an anxious one. It is not the loss of this or that ridge or crest that counts.

Continued on Second Page.

Smoke Up and Help "The Sun" Fund To-day!

THIS is Anniversary Day in all the United Cigar Stores. To celebrate the event properly they issue double certificates. This gives smokers an opportunity to deposit just double the usual number of tobacco slips in THE SUN Tobacco Fund boxes for soldiers' smokes.

Why not do your Saturday shopping at the rummage sale, 41 West Forty-fifth street? That's another good way to help the cause.

WARNING! THE SUN TOBACCO FUND has no connection with any other fund, organization or publication. It employs no agents or solicitors. See page 5.

Germans to Hasten New Offensive as Americans Strengthen Allied Line

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.
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LONDON, May 17.—A representative of the British General Staff told the correspondent of THE SUN to-day that while the Germans were straining every resource to resume their offensive on the same gigantic scale as it began on March 21, which was on a fifty mile front, the Allies had been employing the time to strengthen and develop their defensive. He continued:

"In addition, there has been a steady stream of American troops arriving to strengthen both the line and the reserve. The Germans know what this new augmentation of our strength means to them."

"There is reason to believe that it was the realization of the coming increase in the military strength of the Allies from a hitherto untapped source which was partly responsible for forcing the enemy to hazard the whole of his future on a great offensive, as he has done, but would not have done if he had had nothing to fear from the American army."

"We are confident that the American army will make good. The Americans must buy experience as the other allies have done, but they are good business men; they will buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest market, making the Germans pay the highest price."

"German propaganda is endeavoring to belittle the American factor, but there is no doubt that the Germans know full well the serious character of the American participation."

ENEMY SHELLS AMERICAN LINE

No Evidence Given of Renewal
of Offensive on Picardy
Sector.

PATROLS ARE BOMBED

Germans Plant Infernal Machines to Halt Activity
of U. S. Scouts.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, May 17.—The whole American sector on the Picardy front was subjected to a heavy bombardment early this morning. The cannonade continued for forty-five minutes. There was much aerial activity yesterday and today, with a bright sun and light wind, but there were no further indications that the enemy was preparing to renew the offensive. On this front troop movements behind the German lines are normal.

The Germans opposite the American sector northwest of Toul are resorting to infernal machines in an effort to check the activity of American patrols, numbers of which go out every night to roam No Man's Land and even German land virtually at will.

A member of an American patrol stepped on a harmless looking wire near the German lines early yesterday and a bomb immediately exploded in the center of the patrol group. It had been planted by the enemy.

The members of the patrol either entered or were assisted into an abandoned trench near by and the soldiers prepared for a fight, believing one was certain to come. They waited in the darkness for half an hour for something to happen, but the Germans did not come out. The party then made its way cautiously back to the American line.

NEW YORKER KILLED IN GALLANT ACTION

While Mortally Wounded Pel-
liche Strangles Enemy.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, May 17.—Additional instances of unusual bravery by American troops on the battlefield in Picardy have become known.

Lieut. James Pelliche, a Harvard man and son of a New York artist, and Lieut. Stephen Fitzgerald, a Boston athlete, both have been killed, but their deeds will live.

Lieut. Pelliche went out with a working party which was attacked by Germans. Pelliche was shot and mortally wounded, but he continued to fight with his hands and strangled a German, and in so doing encouraged and inspired his companions.

Lieut. Fitzgerald was shot in the head while leading a platoon in No Man's Land in a day raid against a German machine gun. He refused aid and continued to lead his men, when a second bullet felled him.

Jack Fritz of Boston led a platoon into No Man's Land. When attacked by superior German forces he ordered his men back to the trenches and remained alone in No Man's Land and fought the Germans single handed with grenades and broke up their formation. Fritz was wounded.

The foregoing despatch obviously has been censored.

AUSTRIA ENLISTING WOMEN.

30,000 Now Employed in Auxiliary
Military Services.

VIENNA, May 17.—Austrian newspapers are exhibiting concern at what they call the feminization of the army. It appears that 30,000 women and girls are now employed in the auxiliary services as clerks, servants, etc., and that others are being enlisted at the rate of 150,000 a month.

The women are being enrolled at Vienna and sent into the field.

Pershing Lets It Be Known That Americans Are With Haig.

NATIONAL ARMY FORCE

Probably Includes Infantry
and Machine Gun Units
Recently in London.

RUSHED OVER IN APRIL

Men Are Held in Reserve to Complete Training Be- fore Battle.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—New York troops, men of the National Army, it is assumed here, are on the firing line in Flanders. Gen. Pershing permitted it to be known to-day that American troops had taken their places with Field Marshal Haig's forces on the Flanders front, where the resumption of the great German drive is being awaited hourly. These troops include men called by the draft.

The assumption that New Yorkers are in this first American contingent to join the Flanders front is based on cables reports indicating that the Americans now under Sir Douglas Haig include the infantry and machine gun units which were reviewed recently by King George in London. Advice from London at that time said that the major portion of the draftees were men from New York city.

Military men are convinced that the Flanders front is to be the hottest part of the great battle now impending, which means that the Americans rushed to this section of the line are to share with the British troops in the defense of the Channel ports, one of the German objectives.

Within Sound of Guns.

The Americans sent to Flanders are to complete their final stage of training within sound of the heavy guns and are part of the British reserve forces which may be called on in emergency. They form part of the reinforcements rushed overseas following the British appeal for men made by Lloyd George in April.

Some of the American troops sent overseas since the German drive began have joined the British and French at the Amiens sector, but until to-day there had been no mention of American troops with the British on the Flanders front.

The presence of these Americans with the British to complete their training is interpreted in army circles to mean that they are American soldiers drafted into veteran British reserve units. All details concerning number of Americans and the time they have been with the British are withheld.

The belief is that the troops which include the American troops who joined the British with the British will not occupy the front line at present, but will be held in reserve for any emergency which may arise when the Germans again resume their effort to break through to the Channel ports.

The presence of the Americans, it is explained, not only provides an increased reserve force to be relied on in case of emergency but also probably releases more seasoned troops to take up first line positions. The severity of the recent fighting has forced Field Marshal Haig to call heavily on his reserves, and it became important for him to be able speedily to fill gaps in his reserve of reserve troops.

This timely arrival of American fighting forces has aided materially, it is believed, in the solution of this problem.

To Advantage of Allies.

Army men say that the plan of sending American reinforcements to Flanders will work to the advantage of the Allies regardless of whether the drive now or waits days or even weeks before resuming major efforts. In case the full in the fighting continues the Americans will complete their advance training very much in the same manner that was part of the plan when the first Americans went into the fighting sectors in Lorraine. This will mean that the percentage of Americans who become fit to operate in the first line will increase systematically until American fighting forces will become a really important factor in the section of the battle front.

In case the Germans precipitate matters the Americans are well enough trained to be called on if occasion requires. There is keen satisfaction here over reports of the enthusiastic welcome which the Americans have received from the veteran British troops. The brigades of the American division, however, individual soldiers are sprinkled into the British line here and there, but means that American regiments, or perhaps even a section of the battle front.

The general belief here is that the resumption of the German drive will not be long delayed. All industry is being put to an early effort by the enemy to precipitate the fighting against the British, especially as the Germans occupy the points of tactical vantage and are it is believed certain to attempt to make the most of the situation.

KAISER STILL IS CONFIDENT.

Talks About Ploughshares and Re- turns to Take Blame for War.

AMSTERDAM, May 17.—I have rock-like confidence that my people will be equal to the great tasks of the future," the *Colonge Volks Zeitung* quotes Emperor William as saying when inspecting the graves of soldiers during his recent visit to Aix-la-Chapelle. "The soldier who has struggled through the recent time of the world war will be a teacher and leader of the growing youth at home in building up and consolidating the reborn empire."

"War's bloody sword will be reforged into ploughshares in the work of peace and civilization, and in the new imperial force we must, as united peoples of brothers, show ourselves worthy of our comrades in eternity."

The Kaiser also is quoted as saying: "Truly it was not my will that the war has come."